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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112-2875

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Contact: Kevin Pautler, 717-787-3904
nass-pa@nass.usda.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's Small Grain Production

HARRISBURG, PA, September 30, 2011 - - Final estimates of Pennsylvania's 2011 small grains indicate that production of oat and winter wheat was below the levels of a year ago and barley production increased from 2010, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Oat yield was estimated at 46 bushels per acre, down 13 bushels per acre from last year. Acreage for harvest at 60,000 acres, was down 25 percent from last year, with the resulting production at 2.8 million bushels, 42 percent below last year. Barley yield was estimated at 65 bushels per acre, down 10 bushels per acre from last year. Barley acreage for harvest increased by 10,000 acres from last year's 45,000 acres to 55,000 acres, with the resulting production at 3.58 million bushels, up 6 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield was estimated at 51 bushels per acre, down 8 bushels per acre from last year. Acreage for harvest was 170,000, which was up 20,000 acres from a year ago. The resulting production, at 8.7 million bushels, was down 2 percent from last year.

At the United States level, oat production is estimated at a record low 54.0 million bushels, 6 percent below the August forecast and down 33 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 57.5 bushels per acre, down 4.1 bushels from the last forecast and down 6.8 bushels from the previous year. Harvested area is, at 940,000 acres, up slightly from August, but 26 percent below last year. This is the smallest acreage harvested for grain on record, surpassing the previous record low set in 2010.

Barley production is estimated at 155 million bushels, down 8 percent from the August 1 forecast and 14 percent below 2010, and the lowest since 1936. Average yield per acre, at 69.2 bushels, is down 3.9 bushels from last year. Producers seeded 2.56 million acres in 2011, down 11 percent from last year. This is the lowest planted acreage on record. Harvested area, at 2.24 million acres, is down 6 percent from the August 1 forecast and down 9 percent from 2010, and the lowest level since 1881.

The 2011 winter wheat U.S. production totaled 1.49 billion bushels, down slightly from the August forecast, but 1 percent above last year. The United States yield is 46.2 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from August and down 0.6 bushels from the previous year. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 32.3 million acres, up slightly from the last forecast and up 2 percent from the previous year.

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